

SECRET

77-10326

14 December 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Dr. Brzezinski,  
13 December 1977

[Redacted]

25X1

2. Discussed the possible visit to the Headquarters Building and talk on foreign policy by Brzezinski next week. Should check back on Friday for possible date Monday or Tuesday.

3. Delivered a copy of the background paper and proposed press release for the President on personnel reductions in the CIA; I also gave a copy to Jody Powell (attached).

25X1

[Redacted]

I ought to review his memorandum to me. I also ought to review my memorandum to him about the meeting at the Agency and what actions we were contemplating.

(EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FILE *White House*)

*Stansfield Turner*  
STANSFIELD TURNER  
Director

Attachment a/s

SECRET

25X1

Items in I & IV areclassified

- (C) I. Reductions are all in the Directorate of Operations or the Clandestine Service which is our organization for human spy activities.

The Clandestine Service was at [ ] during Vietnam. 25X1

25X1 Today it is [ ]

After this cut it will be [ ] 25X1

No one in CIA questions that the Clandestine Service is too large

- 25X1 II. The cut of [ ] positions will be phased over FY 78 and FY 79. Almost all of the positions reduced will be in the Headquarters. Overseas operational strength remains constant.

All grade levels will be reduced slightly -- higher percentage at the top.

- III. The cut does reflect the fact of reduced emphasis on covert action -- long before Carter Administration.

It does not reflect any lessened importance of the clandestine intelligence function.

If that had been the intent, the cuts would have been taken overseas.

- 25X1(C) IV. Presently [ ] of the Clandestine Service is in the Headquarters.

After these reductions [ ] will be in the Headquarters 25X1

Proposed Press Comment for President on Reductions in Personnel in CIA

When I asked Admiral Turner to take the job as Director of Central Intelligence, we both knew he was inheriting a number of difficult problems.

One was the overstaffed section of the CIA which carries out the covert action and clandestine collection of intelligence information. Everyone, including long-time members of CIA's top management, agreed that Division was too large and that reductions were badly needed for morale, efficiency and economy. Admiral Turner took on the necessary but unpleasant task of reducing that staff by  positions.

25X1

In commenting on this action, I would like to emphasize two points.

First, this in no way signals a shift in reliance from human collection to technical means of obtaining intelligence information. The balance remains the same.

Secondly, I fully support what the Admiral is doing to strengthen the CIA. I have been very pleased by the performance of the CIA. I'm sure solving some of the problems, such as this one, will only make it better.

DEC 11 1971

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# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	ADDCI		X		
3	D/DCI/NI	X (para 7)			
4	DDO	X (para 7)			
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12	ES		X		
SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks:

Note: I will retrieve para 7 memos for DCI and orally advise  and OLC of paras 3, 5, and 6.

Executive Secretary

14 December 1977

Date

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